



the hub - your community action centre

Weekly e-bulletin: 15th November 2023

News

Community Resilience

[Community resilience - SupportDG - Dumfries and Galloway Council \(dumgal.gov.uk\)](#)

Starting a new Community Council resilience team

We have Community council resilience teams throughout the region but there are still some Community Council areas without one. To help you establish a resilience team, we have introduced a quick-start process with a template, guidance and the all-important insurance cover.

[Community Resilience Template 2021 \(Word doc\) \[2MB\] \(opens new window\)](#)

[Key Insurance Information template \(Word doc\) \[173KB\] \(opens new window\)](#)

[GDPR Advice - Supporting Vulnerable Residents and Information](#)

[Storage \(PDF\) \[162KB\] \(opens new window\)](#)

Support is available by contacting your local [Ward Officer](#)

For additional information on creating a plan visit [Ready Scotland](#)

Completed forms should be returned to SupportDG@dumgal.gov.uk

Warm spaces in Dumfries and Galloway Are you running or know of a community Warm Space to help Dumfries and Galloway residents this winter? If so, make sure it is on DGLocator - their free mobile app that details services in the region and is used by the public and partners to help vulnerable people across Dumfries and Galloway. You can upload the Warm Space's details in minutes here: [DGLocator Service Upload](#) Also, click here to discover more about DGLocator: [What is DGLocator?](#) If your own organisation's services are not on DGLocator, you can also upload them using the link above. Any questions, please Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway on [0300 303 8558](tel:03003038558) 9am - 5pm Monday-Thursday 9am - 4pm Friday info@tsdg.org.uk

Short Breaks Directory Supports Those Who Need Respite the Shared Care Scotland directory is a brilliant resource for unpaid carers in Scotland who need a short break. Breaks from caring make a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of unpaid carers, yet many report being unable to access a break from their caring role when they need it most. The Shared Care Scotland Short Breaks Directory is a valuable online resource designed to support individuals and families in Scotland – and organisations who work to support them – who require respite and short-break services. Its purpose is to provide a comprehensive and easily accessible platform that connects people with a wide range of short-break providers across the country. More information here [Short break providers | Shared Care Scotland](#)

NHS inform launch Waiting Well hub this new online hub has resources and help for people who are awaiting specialist appointments, surgery or other healthcare. The hub has information to support health and wellbeing during the wait period and includes information on physical and mental health, as well as advice about practical issues like money worries. [Visit the Waiting Well hub](#)

Help with Heating Scheme 2023

The Scheme consists of two options as follows:

Option 1. This option assists any eligible householder in D & G on means tested benefits whether they own or rent their home by providing a subsidy towards their heating costs. This covers any type of heating i.e. oil, calor gas, LPG, coal, gas, electricity; and however it is normally paid i.e. pre-payment meters, monthly payment plans, direct debit payments, quarterly bills or invoices.

Option 2: This option provides a one-off bulk delivery of free kindling and briquettes for any eligible householder in D & G on an eligible means tested benefit who relies on an open fire/multi fuel fire to heat their home.

HOUSEHOLDERS CAN ONLY APPLY FOR ONE OPTION NOT BOTH.

For more detailed information about eligibility criteria and how to apply please email helpwithheatingscheme@thehubdg.org.uk

Please note we can only deal with enquiries about the Scheme via email.

Apologies but we are unable to deal with phone enquiries.

Events

Dumfries and Galloway Recovery Together Coffee Morning Saturday 25th November 10am to 2pm The Bethany Church Buccleuch Street Dumfries. Tea, coffee, home baking, stalls, tombola and raffle. £1.00 entry. They are raising funds to help keep their peer led group going. If anyone is interested in a stall, please contact them at Dumfries and Galloway Recovery Together on Facebook.

Free warm winter clothes events for families

Friday 17th November 10am – 6pm Dumfries Pop Up Shop – The Press, high Street, Dumfries

Saturday 18th November 12pm - 4pm Town Hall, High Street, Lockerbie

Saturday 18th November 11am – 3pm Customer Services, Church Street, Newton Stewart

Sunday 19th November 11am – 3pm Castle Douglas Community Centre, Cotton Street, Castle Douglas

Saturday 25th November 12pm – 4pm Sanquhar Town Hall, Church Street, Sanquhar

Saturday 2nd December 12pm – 4pm Customer Services Centre, North Strand Street, Stranraer

Saturday 2nd December 12pm – 4pm Newington Leisure Centre, Shawhill Road, Annan

Free Period Products will be available to collect at each event

Training

Dumfries and Galloway Council provide training sessions for all Community Councillors with the governance document, The Amended Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Dumfries and Galloway being the chief focus of the training. Contact the Community Council Mailbox for further support in arranging a training session for your Community Council.

Community.Councils@dumgal.gov.uk

Surveys and Consultations

Poverty and Inequalities Partnership aims to capture most effective ways to engage with hard to reach individuals and families across the region to provide support to enhance lives. Take the survey here [The Most Effective Ways to Engage with our Hard to Reach Clients \(office.com\)](#)

Customer Services Survey: Libraries, Registration, Heritage and Customer Services help them to find out what you need. Their Council's Customer Services team always try to make sure their services reflect current and future customer requests, but they need to hear from you, their customers, to help us plan their future provision. They are extending their survey date to **20 November 2023** to give you more time and they would really appreciate if you could take 10 minutes to tell them about your experiences with them - How often you use the service? What do you need them for? How good are they? Are they missing anything you feel is important? Even if you don't currently use their provision, they would be interested to know what they can do to encourage you to use their services. Customer Services includes Libraries, Registration (births, deaths, and marriages), face-to-face customer services for the Council, and the Heritage Service (Local Studies and Archives). Please click the link below and complete the questions in the form. Thank you. They really appreciate all your

feedback. [Dumfries and Galloway Council Customer Service Centres Customer Survey - September 2023 \(office.com\)](#)

Closes soon: Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) Continuation and Future Pricing The Scottish Government is consulting on whether MUP should be continued as part of the range of policy measures in place to address alcohol related harm, and, in the event of its continuation, the level the minimum unit price should be set going forward. The policy aim of MUP is to reduce health harms caused by alcohol consumption by setting a floor price below which alcohol cannot be sold. In particular, it targets a reduction in consumption of alcohol that is considered cheap, relative to its strength. It aims to reduce both the consumption of alcohol at population level and, in particular, among those who drink at hazardous and harmful levels. [More here](#).

Campaigns

Pension Age Winter Heating Payment Views are being sought on the introduction of the Pension Age Winter Heating Payment, a new benefit to replace the UK Government's Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland. The Scottish Government has previously committed to delivering the new payment on a like-for-like basis with the existing benefit. It will help more than a million pensioners with heating costs in the winter. The consultation document sets out proposals for implementing the new payment when it is introduced from the winter of 2024 and asks for responses, which can be submitted until 15 January. The public's views on issues such as who should be eligible, the timing and format of the payment and the likely impact of the benefit, are being sought – as well as further evidence about issues specific to people who are off the gas grid. [Find out more and respond](#)

Publications and reports

Community Council News November 2023 50 Years of Community Councils Information on [new resources for Community Councils and local authorities](#) which were published on 12th October are now available online and in easy read format. The documents, which includes a Good Practice Guidance for Community Councils. More information here [Model Scheme Documents 2023 | Community Council \(communitycouncils.scot\)](#)

Draft Integration Scheme published The Integration Scheme for Dumfries and Galloway has been reviewed, revised and updated. This is a draft document until 2nd December 2023 to give people a further opportunity to provide comments and/or suggest changes. After this time, this will become a final draft document and submitted to NHS Dumfries and Galloway Board and Dumfries and Galloway Council for approval for submission to Scottish Ministers. Once agreed by Scottish Ministers, the document will become the Integration Scheme for Dumfries and Galloway. Please contact Vicky Freeman, Strategic Policy Lead with your comments at vicky.freeman2@nhs.scot **by 2nd December 2023**. As this is a draft document at this time, it should be noted that it is still subject to some minor changes and alterations. To view the Draft Integration Scheme, click here: <https://www.nhsdg.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Revised-Integration-Scheme-V6.doc>

Research Shows Impact of Low-Level Mental Health Support Project A research study has been launched on the Low-Level Mental Health Support Project, run by Dumfries and Galloway Council's Youth Work and Educational Psychology Services. The project develops skills for wellbeing, increased confidence and self-esteem – and building improved attitudes about and attendance at school. The findings of the year-long research study highlight the complex issues and challenges faced by young people, and deterioration of their wellbeing that led to the need for this project. Issues included difficulties at home or in relationships, caring responsibilities, substance abuse, low confidence and self-esteem, risk-taking behaviour, anger management issues, behaviour in school, bereavement, anxiety, stress, and low mood. The evaluation documented

in the study also found that the project gave young people the opportunity to learn how to open up and share feelings, develop self-awareness, and learn coping strategies and tools – and to feel listened to. Read more here [Details - DGC Press Releases \(dumgal.gov.uk\)](#)

Nesta report explores the future of health inequalities As part of UK2040 Options – Nesta's policy project aimed at addressing the defining issues facing the UK – the organisations has published nine fundamental facts about the nation's health in a new report with The Health Foundation. They include:

- Stalling life expectancy: on our current path it would take two centuries to reach the current government target to improve healthy life expectancy for men
- Widening health inequalities: there is a 10 year gap in healthy life expectancy among people in the richest and poorest areas
- More people living with serious illness: between now and 2040, cases of dementia may rise by 45%, and cases of heart failure may rise by more than 90%. This report looks at the choices available to governments to tackle widening health inequalities. [More here.](#)

Scottish Government published new Mental Health And Wellbeing Delivery Plan 2023-25 This Delivery Plan sets out the actions that the government will take to make progress towards the outcomes and priorities in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, published earlier this year. This first Delivery Plan sets out what actions the government will take over the next 18 months to make progress towards delivering each of the ten priorities identified in the Strategy. This includes actions from different areas across government in recognition of our cross-government approach. The work in this Plan seeks to complement and build on other policies and programmes of work to address the causes of poor mental health and to support those who need help quickly and effectively. [Read more and access the document](#)

Ending Homelessness and Destitution reports the latest Scottish Government-COSLA report on ending homelessness sets out progress made by the third sector and national and local government in the last 12 months. Global events, post-Covid factors and humanitarian and cost crises have had an impact, and the overall need for more homes remains, but the report also highlights the gains made. The Scottish Government also published its [year two-progress report](#) on delivery of the Ending Destitution Together strategy, developed with COSLA to ensure people are not forced into destitution because of their immigration status. [More here.](#)

Funding

Dumfries and Galloway Regional Arts Fund is now open for applications from constituted groups, charities and social enterprises for activity taking place in 2024/25. Successful applications will be for high-quality arts projects that contribute to the wellbeing of communities across Dumfries and Galloway and create public benefit. The fund is a collaboration with regional arts network DG Unlimited. **The deadline for applications is 8am on 15 January 2024.** More information here [Funding for arts projects - Dumfries and Galloway Council \(dumgal.gov.uk\)](#)

Nithsdale Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Small Grants Small grant programme to support the following Nithsdale Area priorities: • Digital Connectivity • Food Insecurity • Fuel Poverty • Warm Hubs. Constituted Groups, operating in Nithsdale, can apply for up to £1,500 towards projects, which support one or more of the priorities. Match funding will be required, as you cannot request 100% from Council sources of funding. **Applications will be assessed on a first-come first-served basis and the fund will close when the budget is fully allocated.** TO APPLY – Complete the [Application Form \(Word doc download\)](#) and return it to GrantApplications@dumgal.gov.uk Please ensure you include a copy of relevant supporting documents to ensure your application can be assessed on a first-come first-served basis. [Small Grants – Priorities, Eligibility and Criteria \(Word Doc download\)](#)

Regional Events Growth Fund Announced Dumfries and Galloway Council has announced that more than £120,000 will be available for festivals and events grants in financial year 2024/25, as part of the Dumfries and Galloway Events Strategy 2023-2027. At the meeting of the Council's Communities Committee on 3 October, councillors agreed to introduce the Regional Events Growth Fund and continue the Major Events Fund. Events organisers can apply to the two funding programmes from Monday 16 October with a deadline of **Friday the 24 November**. The Regional Events Growth Fund is being established to provide finance for the most ambitious community events to grow into regional attractions, and the Major Events Fund will continue to support signature events. Full details of the Regional Events Growth Fund 2024/25 and Major Events Fund 2023/2024 are available on the Council's website, or organisations can email to request the application forms at events@dumgal.gov.uk

Supporting local producers in Scotland Funding for regional food and drink projects. Local food and drink projects are being encouraged to apply for funding from the Scottish Government's Regional Food Fund. The latest round of funding of up to £100,000 is now available for businesses and groups who wish to promote regional food products and establish new markets. The Fund is designed to support the development of regional food and drink products across Scotland. [Further information on the Regional Food Fund.](#)
[Online application form for the Regional Food Fund.](#)

The deadline for applications is 5pm, 24 November 2023.

National Centre for Resilience Community Councils Fund Funding for Community Councils to develop local resilience plans that address potential natural hazards such as heavy snow, landslides, high winds, and other disruptive events and subsequently enhance their local community preparedness and response to natural hazards. [More here.](#)

Warburtons Community Grants they will support organisations that focus on solving significant social issues, as defined through their Financial Giving Policy. We work with the Charities Aid Foundation to deliver their financial giving programme, to ensure that all organisations they support are charitable and that they accurately record their social impact. [More here.](#)

Music for All - Community Project Funding the Music for All charity believe that everyone should have the opportunity to learn to play music. They make grants available to address the musical needs of community music groups and educational organisations. They support projects and initiatives taking place throughout the UK that all aim to bring music to their community and would benefit from a "helping hand" to fulfil their potential in becoming truly sustainable music programmes. Grants are available under a number of different categories, each with their own criteria and award amounts. [Find out more](#)

Jobs

Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway - Community Health and Wellbeing Officer Part-time, Permanent, Location: Dumfries, Salary: £11,478.80 (based on FTE £22,957.60), Hours: 17.5. The role of the Community Health and Wellbeing Officer is to support and work alongside the Community Health and Wellbeing Manager in the delivery of Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway's services and relationships in relation to community health and wellbeing, and health and social care. This involves working directly with voluntary organisations and statutory partners, in particular the health and social care partnership, to support good health and wellbeing across communities in Dumfries and Galloway. The Officer will work directly with third sector organisations supporting them in early intervention and prevention, to support communities and individuals to remain well and independent at home for as long as possible.

[Full job description \(Link\)](#) [Job applicant pack \(Link\)](#)

How to apply: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4950789>

Closing Date: 2nd December 2023

Dumfries and Galloway Befriending Project – Project Manager 25 hours per week Salary: £25,593 (Full time equivalent £35,831) Applications are invited for the above post based in Dumfries Flexible/blended working arrangements The Project matches adult volunteers with vulnerable young people aged 8-18 to provide one-to-one support. It is an exciting and dynamic charity operating region-wide and they are looking for a highly motivated and experienced individual with excellent interpersonal skills and an ability to naturally connect with a range of people across ages, to drive the charity forward from a position of strength. If you are inspired by their cause and have a passion for what they do, they would love to hear from you. Application by: **Thursday 23 November 2023 (email or hard copy)** Interviews: early December 2023, date to be confirmed Application forms available in electronic format or paper copy by emailing projectoffice@befriending.org or requesting a pack from 19 Bank Street, Dumfries DG1 2NX. Tel. No. 01387-247812

Alcohol and Drugs Support South West Scotland - Housing Support Worker Full Time, Permanent, Location: Dumfriesshire, Annandale & Eskdale Salary: £25,680 full time, Hours: 35. They looking for dedicated and conscientious support workers to join their friendly and supportive Housing Support Team, on a part-time or full-time basis. These posts will cover the East of the region – Nithsdale & Annandale & Eskdale. They are seeking caring and compassionate individuals, qualified to SVQ II minimum, with previous experience in a support environment. Candidates must be warm and friendly, with a strong work ethic, a positive attitude and a genuine passion for providing our service users with high quality support. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, well organised and able to work both independently and as part of a team. Read more about working at ADS, a Living Wage Employer, at <http://www.adssws.co.uk/working-for-ads/>
Closing Date: 24th November 2023 How to apply: Please email CV to enquiries@adssws.co.uk

Lockerbie Old School - Project Officer Full Time, Location: Lockerbie, Salary: £12-£13 hour, Hours: 35. Must be a self-starter with a 'can do' attitude. You will need brilliant attention to detail, be practical, thoughtful, forward thinking, creative, industrious and have excellent customer service skills. Knowledge of facilities/shop management would also be beneficial. To ensure their community space is open when needed, they anticipate the majority of working hours to be Mon to Fri around typical office hours. There will be occasional evening and weekend work with time off in lieu. The role will be based within Lockerbie Town Centre. You will have good knowledge of social media platforms and media apps like Canva. You will be able to work independently, with initiative, and have good verbal and written communication skills with experience in marketing. Experience of the voluntary sector or community-oriented work, and website content writing would be an advantage, along with experience of event planning or producing press releases and newsletters.
Closing Date: 30th November 2023
How to apply: <https://www.lockerbieoldschool.org/news/2023/10/recruiting-project-officer/>

Hub Projects

Getting Connected Project - we provide one-to-one supported appointments to assist people:

- Complete a range of application forms
- carry out online job searches and apply for jobs online
- update Universal Credit e-journals
- create or update CV's

We also offer additional **FREE Basic Computer Skills learning sessions**. These short sessions cover all the things you need to know to use computers in your day-to-day life. The sessions are friendly and informal allowing you to learn at your own pace. We also offer **Free Money Matters sessions** to assist you

manage your household income using your new IT skills. We offer an iPad loan scheme for those without internet-enabled devices.

Contact: 01387 269161 or email info@thehubdg.org.uk

Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

- Do you need a deposit to rent a private rented sector tenancy in Dumfries and Galloway?
- Are you on a low wage or receive means tested benefits and live in Dumfries and Galloway?

Then the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme may be able to assist you!

Contact: 01387 269161 or email rdgs@thehubdg.org.uk

SPRING Social Prescribing Project can help to address social, emotional and practical needs by supporting and connecting people to sources of support and opportunities available in their local community. People who experience social isolation, low mood, mild depression, long term conditions, pain management or physical inactivity may benefit from this social prescribing so if you or someone you know would like to be referred to us please contact **01387 269161** or email spring@thehubdg.org.uk

Want to put an item in our e-bulletin?

If you have items you would like included in our e-bulletin please email these to info@thehubdg.org.uk.

PRIVACY NOTICE

You can view our Privacy Notice at www.thehubdg.org.uk

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the hub – your community action centre provides affordable, accessible co-working space and development support for non-profit organisations. Meeting/training rooms and hot desking facilities are also available. We develop and deliver a range of projects and services that assist people and local communities. Working together - making a difference!

The contents of this e-bulletin any attachment may contain personal views which are not the views of The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a the hub-your community action centre) unless specifically stated. The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a thehub- your community action centre) does not guarantee the accuracy of information contained in this e-bulletin. The Hub Dumfries and Galloway is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Scottish Charity Number SC043384.

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